

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT – JULY 8, 2019

Members: Linda Martin, Chairperson, Greg Zimmerman, Ricky Ressler

Attendees: Linda Martin, Greg Zimmerman, Ricky Ressler, Sue Rowe, Bob Thompson, Tracy Roseberry, Jim Summers, Mike Eichenlaub

The Community Services Committee met on June 24, 2019 and discussed the following:

Action Items:

1. The Committee reviewed a written request, dated June 13, 2019, from Josh McCracken, Principal of Fulton Elementary School, to place flags at the Winters Leadership Plaza for Veterans Day. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council approve the request as part of the Consent Agenda at their July 8, 2019 meeting. The Borough is in receipt of a certificate of insurance naming the Borough as additional insured.

Discussion Items:

1. Executive Director of the Ephrata Rec Center, Jim Summers, reviewed the 2018 versus the 2019 attendance and explained bather load regulations to ensure that the Committee is aware that the ECP has been compliant in accordance to DVIT (Insurance), State, and PA Department of Health Standards. Jim went back to the permit approval company to verify bather load regulations for our pool. The bather load (swimmers in pool) for the lower pool is 354 and 444 for the upper pool. In addition, there are allowed to be 2,000 individuals on the deck area; anyone other than in the pool. Jim stated that they don't even come close to those numbers, but in an effort to address citizen concerns, they have implemented a policy to allow a maximum of 1,000 (approximately 600 day passes and 400 scans) people at any one time. This is not a hard and fast number, but measures are being taken enforce that number as closely as possible. In another effort to address a citizen's concern, Councilperson Martin suggested that the Committee take a look at the day pass rate for the 2020 season. The proposed changes could increase the price of day passes and have two structures within the membership pass. One possibility is to allow the Ephrata Area School District residents or Borough residents to be eligible for a discounted membership rate. The desired outcome would be to incentivize memberships for those that live in the Ephrata Area. The Committee agreed to take a look at for 2020.

Jim Summers also reviewed the facts of the near drowning incident from Memorial Day weekend. He reassured the Committee that the staff did everything the way they are trained to handle these situations.

2. The Committee reviewed an email suggestion from Denny Keller regarding bike racks, benches, and a map of local businesses. Mr. Keller rode the trail from Lititz to Ephrata. The suggestion was turned over to Kelly Withum with Mainspring of Ephrata. No further action is required by the Committee.

3. Councilperson Martin discussed the condition of and the complaints being received with regard to the restrooms in Grater Park. Specifically, there is a request to add doors to the bathroom stalls. Jim Summers explained that he toured the restrooms with Municipal Services Manager, Nancy Harris to see what renovations need to be made. Currently, as they are, they are not code compliant. Jim Summers will meet with Nancy Harris to go over a plan of action. Restrooms are open from early morning to dusk.
4. There was a brief update given on the Bike Share Program. Kelly Withum is working on it and has contacted Lititz Bike Works. They are working on a shed location and on securing twelve bikes, two of which will be mountain bikes to use in the Heatherwood trail.
5. Councilperson Martin shared that the Borough of Ephrata is spotlighted in the July issue of LCM (Lancaster County Magazine) and encouraged everyone to go out and get a copy. Borough Manager Thompson stated that he will work on getting a copy for each Council Member and the Mayor.
6. Visitor Mike Eichenlaub gave a brief update on the Community Garden. Kale and lettuce are now in the food bank and zucchini and squash are harvested.
7. Council President Rowe mentioned that there was a suggestion made to her that should be added to next month's agenda. The suggestion is to have a monthly column in the Ephrata Review designated for Borough Council news. This item will be included on the agenda for the July 22, 2019 meeting.